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## **Subject: Direct Loan Tools for Windows, Version 1.0**

We are pleased to announce the availability of a new stand-alone software product, Direct Loan (DL) Tools for Windows, Version 1.0. DL Tools is a multi-cycle application designed to help you perform the following tasks:

- Rebuild your EDEExpress Direct Loan database
- Compare your school's Direct Loan data to the 732 report
- Print the 732 report in a readable format
- Track your Direct Loan cash detail

The initial release of DL Tools is for program year 2001-2002 and provides the same functionality for program year 2000-2001 except for Compare. All Direct Loan schools can use the Compare and Track Cash Detail functionality. The Rebuild process is for schools using the EDEExpress Direct Loan module. DL Tools has the same "look" and "feel" of EDEExpress.

You may want to refer to the *2001-2002 Direct Loan Technical Reference*, Appendix E, for more information on DL Tools functionality. The technical reference can be viewed or printed from the SFAdownload Web site (located at **SFAdownload.ed.gov**).

### **How to Get the Software and Documentation**

We are distributing DL Tools via the Internet. You can download the software and the related user documentation from the SFAdownload Web site (located at **SFAdownload.ed.gov**).

The "Downloading Software/Paper Documentation" chapter of the *Direct Loan Tools for Windows Installation Guide* provides complete installation instructions.

If you have trouble opening the SFA download Web site or have difficulty in downloading DL Tools, call CPS/WAN Technical Support at **800/330-5947** to request diskettes.

**Note:** Some organizations restrict their users from downloading from FTP sites. You may want to contact your technical support staff to obtain full FTP download rights.

### **If You Have Technical Support and Policy Questions**

If you have SFA technical support questions and subscribe to SFATECH, you can post e-mail on the SFATECH listserv located at:

**[www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/sfatech/listserv.html](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/sfatech/listserv.html)**

Make sure you include your telephone number in your message. ED staff or contractors for the system about which you have a question will see your posting and begin preparing a response.

If you have questions regarding DL Tools such as installation issues, software problem resolution, software functionality, and technical assistance, you can call CPS/WAN Technical Support. You can reach them Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m. (CT), at **800/330-5947**. You can also e-mail inquiries, comments, or suggestions 24 hours a day to **CPSWAN@NCS.COM**. A representative will respond within 24 hours.

*CPS/WAN Technical Support*

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## **Direct Loan Tools for Windows Version 1.0**

DL Tools offers the following Direct Loan support:

- Rebuild an EDEExpress database
- Compare the 732 report provided by the LOC to actual disbursements recorded in EDEExpress or an external file, and compare to the DL Tools Cash Management database
- Print the 732 report in a readable format
- Track Direct Loan cash receipts (drawdowns) and returns of excess cash

The initial release of DL Tools is for program year 2001-2002 and provides the same functionality for program year 2000-2001 except for Compare.

### ***Rebuild***

The Rebuild functionality used in conjunction with an LOC Rebuild Loan file can rebuild your Direct Loan origination and disbursement records in EDEExpress 2000-2001 (EDEExpress v6.x) or EDEExpress 2001-2002 (EDEExpress v7.x). Upon importing the LOC Rebuild file, you are provided three options:

- Update all EDEExpress records with data from the Rebuild Loan File
- Update selected records in EDEExpress with data from the Rebuild Loan File
- Compare records in the Rebuild Loan File to EDEExpress records. Compare Only compares records in the Rebuild Loan File to existing EDEExpress records. It does not update the EDEExpress database

A report displays any unmatched origination records and/or unmatched disbursement records.

### ***Compare***

732 reports can be imported into DL Tools. Once imported, DL Tools can compare an LOC 732 report with EDEExpress loan detail and DL Tools cash detail.

In addition, if you have loan detail and cash detail in an external system, such as a mainframe or other software system, you can import this data into DL Tools to be compared to an LOC 732 report.

## ***Track Cash Detail***

DL Tools provides a tracking method for Direct Loan schools to record Cash Detail. You can manually enter cash receipts (drawdowns) and returns of excess cash or import an External Cash Detail Add file.

## ***Imports***

You can import the following data files:

- LOC Rebuild
- 732 Report - Loan Detail and Cash Detail (biweekly and monthly)
- 732 Report - Cash Summary (biweekly and monthly)
- Cash Detail External Add
- Loan Detail External Add

## ***Reports***

These reports are available in DL Tools. For some reports, you must have a connection to the Direct Loan EDEExpress database or have imported an External Add file.

- Cash Summary
- Cash Detail Comparison (not available for 2000-2001)
- Loan Detail Comparison - Loan Level (not available for 2000-2001)
- 732 Cash Detail (not available for 2000-2001)
- 732 Loan Detail (not available for 2000-2001)
- Record Layout - DL Header
- Record Layout - DL Trailer
- Record Layout - Rebuild Origination
- Record Layout - Rebuild Disbursement
- Record Layout - 732 Cash Detail
- Record Layout - 732 Loan Detail
- Record Layout - Cash Summary
- Record Layout - Cash Detail External Add
- Record Layout - Loan Detail External Add

## DL Tools Supports These Printers

We tested the following printers that are Windows NT 4.0, Windows 95, Windows 98, and Windows 2000\* compatible:

- HP LaserJet 3 si
- HP LaserJet 4
- HP LaserJet 4M
- HP LaserJet 4M Plus
- HP LaserJet 4 si
- HP LaserJet 5 si
- HP LaserJet 5 si MX
- HP LaserJet 4000N
- HP LaserJet 8000N\*
- HP LaserJet 8150 DN

\*There is currently no functional Windows 2000 print driver for the HP LaserJet 8000N printer.

## DL Tools Benchmarking Results

We performed benchmarking tests on DL Tools to determine how it operates in certain operating environments. The benchmarking results for importing were obtained using a Pentium 200 with 64 MB of RAM. Those for print benchmarking were obtained using a Pentium II 266 with 64 MB of RAM.

- The Benchmarking Volume is the number of records and approximate number of pages that were printed in the test.
- The Average Time Elapsed column indicates the measurement of time starting when you click OK in the DL Tools Print dialog box and when the operating system (Windows NT/95/98/2000) print dialog appears.

The outcomes for an assortment of DL Tools report runs and output events are listed in the tables that follow.

**Note:** The minimum hardware and software specifications, published in the Federal Register on September 19, 1997, still apply for 2001-2002. The minimum hardware and software specifications published in the Federal Register on December 22, 2000, will be applicable for 2002-2003.

## Imports

<b>Component</b>	<b>Operating System</b>	<b>Benchmarking Volume</b>	<b>Time Elapsed</b>
Rebuild	Win NT 4.0	1000 orig/4000 disb	28 minutes 15 seconds
Rebuild	Windows 95	1000 orig/4000 disb	32 minutes 32seconds
Rebuild	Windows 98	1000 orig/4000 disb	30 minutes 45seconds
Rebuild	Windows 2000	1000 orig/4000 disb	28 minutes 27 seconds
Rebuild	Windows Me	1000 orig/4000 disb	30 minutes 21 seconds
732 Cash Detail and Loan Detail	Win NT 4.0	200 cash/800 disb	30 seconds
732 Cash Detail and Loan Detail	Windows 95	200 cash/800 disb	30 seconds
732 Cash Detail and Loan Detail	Windows 98	200 cash/800 disb	27 seconds
732 Cash Detail and Loan Detail	Windows 2000	200 cash/800 disb	27 seconds
732 Cash Detail and Loan Detail	Windows Me	200 cash/800 disb	30 seconds

## Reports

<b>Component</b>	<b>Operating System</b>	<b>Benchmarking Volume</b>	<b>Time Elapsed</b>
2000-2001 Cash Summary	Win NT 4.0	200 Cash/5641 Disbs/1p	6 seconds
2000-2001 Cash Summary	Windows 95	200 Cash/5641 Disbs/1p	8 seconds
2000-2001 Cash Summary	Windows 98	200 Cash/5641 Disbs/1p	7 seconds
2000-2001 Cash Summary	Windows 2000	200 Cash/5641 Disbs/1p	6 seconds
2000-2001 Cash Summary	Windows Me	200 Cash/5641 Disbs/1p	7 seconds
Loan Detail Comparison	Win NT 4.0	25 loans/4 pages	3 seconds
Loan Detail Comparison	Windows 95	25 loans/4 pages	3 seconds
Loan Detail Comparison	Windows 98	25 loans/4 pages	3 seconds
Loan Detail Comparison	Windows 2000	25 loans/4 pages	3 seconds
Loan Detail Comparison	Windows Me	25 loans/4 pages	3 seconds